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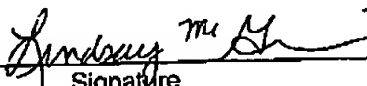
09/690,393  
120/243  
Nortel Ref. BA0466

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s): Squire

Application No.: 09/690,393

Filed: 10/17/2000

Title: Apparatus and Method of Distributing Routing Information

Attorney Docket No.: 2204/A19 120-243

Nortel Ref: BA0466

MAR 19 2004

Group Art Unit: 2157

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Examiner: Salad

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 19, 2003, amend the claims to this application as shown on the attached sheets.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested. Claims 1-26 are currently pending.

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tappan et al., U.S. Patent 6,603,756.

At column 5, lines 22-34, Tappan describes "... Although the general intention of OSPF is for all of its routers to maintain a common map of the networks within the routing domain, routers in many existing OSPF domains are sometimes configured to divide the domain into 'areas' between which there are topological-information differences. Specifically, certain routers